PATENT 450100-02779

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant

Kunihiko Noguchi

Notice of Allowance Dated: 02/24/2006 RECEIVED
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Serial No.

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Filed

October 24, 2000

Examiner

Lesperance, Jean E.

Art Unit

2674

745 Fifth Avenue New York, New York 10151

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I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office Central Fax Center No. (571) 273-8300 on the date shown below.

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Signature March 23, 2006

Date of Signature

RESPONSE TO EXAMINER'S STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance, which accompanied the Notice of Allowance mailed February 24, 2006. To the extent the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance states, implies or is construed to mean that the claims are

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allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner believes the claims should be interpreted to include one or more features or limitations not recited therein, Applicant's attorney disagrees with such an interpretation. Moreover, it is Applicant's contention that there is no particular limitation in the allowed claims that is more critical than any other. The issuance of the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be construed as a surrender by Applicant of any subject matter. It is the intent of Applicant, by his attorney, to construe the allowed claims so as to cover the invention disclosed in the instant application and all equivalents to which the claimed invention is entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP Attorneys for Applicant

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